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Note by the Secretary-General*

Addendum

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1. Grupo Intercultural Almaciga

Special, 2011

Introduction

Grupo Intercultural Almaciga (Almaciga) is a NGO with headquarters in Madrid, Spain. It operates in Latin America and Asia, in cooperation with indigenous peoples' organizations. It also collaborates with other European NGOs and networks in promoting the rights of indigenous peoples in the European Union.

Aims and purposes of the organization

Almaciga works for the protection, promotion, and respect of the rights of indigenous peoples at the local, national, regional, and international level.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

During the reporting period, Almaciga has published several reports and publications on indigenous peoples' human rights and initiatives for sustainable development, and the impacts of corporate activity on indigenous rights. It has also provided technical and logistic support for the participation of indigenous representatives in relevant United Nations meetings. It has also funded, together with other NGOs, the European Network on Indigenous Peoples (ENIP) to promote indigenous rights more effectively within the European Union. ENIP has been an active participant at United Nations specialised meetings.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

Almaciga has consistently participated in the meetings of the Human Rights Council, the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (EMRIP), and the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII). They also participated and supported indigenous participation at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20), 20-22 June 2012, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, and the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples, 22-23 September 2014, New York.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

Grupo Intercultural Almaciga has collaborated with the specialised United Nations mechanisms on the rights of indigenous peoples, including by submitting written information and supporting the activities of the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples, EMRIP, and UNPFII. Almaciga has also submitted relevant reports to the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD) and supported the elaboration of reports by indigenous organizations to these bodies and their direct interaction with the experts and mandate holders.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

Almaciga has developed projects to strengthen the participation of indigenous women in Cauca, Colombia; build capacity for greater participation and governance in Guatemala, Colombia, Ecuador, and Bolivia; sustainably manage indigenous territories in Paraguay; and develop strategies for the management of protected areas in South America, among others.

2. Helsinki Foundation for Human Rights

Special, 2007

Introduction

The Helsinki Foundation for Human Rights (HFHR) was created in 1989. It is active in Poland and abroad; mainly in the Russian Federation, Ukraine, Belarus, the Caucasus and Central Asia.

Aims and purposes of the organization

HFHR conducts national and international trainings and organizes conferences and seminars. It also provides expert consultations in the sphere of human rights and freedoms to individuals, NGOs and state institutions.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The organization participated in the sessions of Human Rights Council in Geneva, Switzerland during the reporting period. The work of the United Nations on human rights constitutes an integral part of HFHR's domestic and international human rights schools, trainings, and workshops.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The organization sends members and participants to advanced international courses on human rights to the United Nations bodies in Geneva.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

HFHR cooperates with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in Warsaw, Poland, and the Polish National Committee for the United Nations International Children's Fund (UNICEF).

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

No activities were specified.

3. Howard League for Penal Reform

Special, 1947

Introduction

The Howard League for Penal Reform is a NGO based in London. United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, established in 1866 to abolish capital punishment and promote more humane sentencing options.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The organization works towards fewer crimes and people in prison and safer communities. It carries out action research on a wide range of penal issues. It campaigns to achieve reform. It also has a legal team that represents children and young adults in custody to improve conditions inside and on release.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The charity makes submissions to various United Nations committees. In 2014, it submitted a critique of the compliance of the Government of United Kingdom with the Convention on the Rights of the Child. The charity co-operated with NGOs across Europe to support research and campaigns to embed United Nations conventions. It also supported and promoted the National Preventative Mechanism.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The organization supported other organizations who attended and presented at the Crime Committee meetings.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The charity supports the Committee on the Rights of the Child and has participated in special sessions on the children of parents in prison.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

No activities were specified.

4. Human Rights House Foundation

Special, 2011

Introduction

The Human Rights House Foundation (HRHF) is headquartered in Oslo, Norway. It works in Caucasus and Eastern Europe, East and Horn of Africa, Western Balkans, and Western Europe. HRHF serves as secretariat for the Human Rights House Network (HRHN).

Aims and purposes of the organization

HRHF works to protect, empower, and support human rights organizations and unite them in an international network of Human Rights Houses. It focuses on the rights to freedom of expression, association, assembly, and to be a human rights defender.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

HRHF promoted Human Rights Council resolutions, especially on the right to be a human rights defender, by creating promotional material distributed in various languages in countries in which HRHF is active. HRHF also undertook capacity-building for lawyers and human rights defenders in six countries. It trained human rights defenders, journalists, and lawyers on the work of the United Nations.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The organization has participated in the following events during the reporting period:

- The 67th, 68th, and 69th Session of the United Nations General Assembly, New York, 29 October-2 November 2012, 26 October-1 November 2013, 20-24 October 2014;
- The 18th-27th regular Session of the Human Rights Council, Geneva, Switzerland, 2011-2014;
- Joint submission to the Second Cycle Universal Periodic Review (UPR) for Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Croatia;
- The 47th, 48th, and 53rd Session of the Committee against Torture, Geneva, Switzerland, 10-14 November 2011, 9-11 May 2012, 12-14 November 2014; and
- The 105th, 106th, and 111th Session of the Human Rights Committee, Geneva, Switzerland, 16-17 July 2012, 22-23 October 2012, 10-11 July 2014.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

HRHF submitted information to, facilitated, and participated in various expert meetings of United Nations special procedure mandate holders. It participated in various meetings with United Nations officials in Geneva and New York and in the countries in which HRHF is active.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

All of HRHF's initiatives are related to the MDGs as none of the MDGs can be implemented without an independent and universal civil society. Specifically on MDG 3, HRHF has initiated a campaign to promote women human rights defenders. HRHF created and exposed an exhibition featuring portraits of 18 women human rights defenders in HRHN. It acknowledged the vital role that women play locally, nationally, and internationally in protecting and promoting human rights.

5. Human Rights Information and Documentation Systems International

Special, 2003

Introduction

Human Rights Information and Documentation Systems International (HURIDOCS) is an international NGO established in 1982 that helps human rights organizations worldwide use information technologies and documentation methods to maximise the impact of their advocacy work. It develops tools and techniques and provides advocates with customised training and support.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The organization's mission is to strengthen the capacity of human rights organizations to manage and communicate information, enhancing their effectiveness and credibility. It works to ensure that human rights organizations have the tools, knowledge, skills, and supporting services to use their information resources effectively.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

Through its publicly available tools, HURIDOCS contributes to making human rights information more easily available. The Caselaw Analysers make case laws of regional and international institutions better accessible. HURIDOCS developed websites for the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights and the International Commission of Jurists (ICJ). Various NGOs used HURIDOCS databases such as Casebox and OpenEvsys to facilitate their work in providing reports on human rights issues to the Universal Periodic Review (UPR), Treaty Monitoring bodies, and other United Nations organs.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

HURIDOCS regularly participated in meetings of the Human Rights Council, the UPR, and various other United Nations meetings related to human rights.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

HURIDOCS had frequent contacts with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) and other United Nations organs concerned with human rights. In particular, HURIDOCS collaborated with the OHCHR in Nairobi, Kenya, on a project related to the coding of a collection of almost 3,400 documents submitted to the Truth, Justice and Reconciliation Commission of Kenya.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

HURIDOCS's work is linked to all MDGs. While HURIDOCS itself is not directly involved in humanitarian aid or advocacy, it is confident that its projects, in

collaboration with local and regional NGOs and national human rights institutions, have contributed to the realisation of the MDGs.

6. Hunt Alternatives Fund

Special, 2011

Introduction

The Institute for Inclusive Security (Inclusive Security), a programme of Hunt Alternatives, advances women's meaningful inclusion in all conflict prevention and resolution efforts. Its work focuses on the Middle East, South Asia, and parts of Africa. Inclusive Security also includes the Women Waging Peace Network — more than 2,000 women leaders from conflict regions with expertise in a wide range of topics related to peace and security.

Aims and purposes of the organization

Inclusive Security promotes women's participation by strengthening the capacity of those who shape peace and security policy; providing research; and equipping women to build coalitions and contribute effectively to peace processes.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

A core component of Inclusive Security's work is to advocate for policy reforms within the United Nations system and Member States to support the women, peace, and security agenda. Inclusive Security is a member of the NGO Working Group on Women, Peace, and Security, where it advances the full implementation of all related Security Council resolutions and serves as a bridge between women leaders and policymakers at the United Nations.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The organization participated in the following meetings, among others:

- It served as a formal member in the Global Acceleration Instrument Financing Discussion Group, United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), New York, 20 June 2014;
- It led a delegation of Syrian women to present policy recommendations to the United Nations Special Envoy and other United Nations entities, General Assembly, New York, September 2014;
- It served as a panellist at a side event of the Fourth Review of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, New York, 10 June 2014; and
- It led annual trainings for select mission staff at the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR), New York, 2011-2014.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

Inclusive Security collaborated with United Nations bodies, providing ongoing technical assistance and policy recommendations on women, peace, and security issues as well as draft language for relevant Security Council resolutions and events. As an example, it hosted a capacity-building workshop on implementing National Action Plans on Women, Peace, and Security with attendance from UN Women and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Kenya, 22-25 July 2014. It also co-produced the Training of Mobilizers Curriculum with UNDP to support women's leadership development for peace and security, 2012.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

Inclusive Security has led trainings for, galvanized, and/or connected more than 5,000 officials and 3,000 women from 45 conflict regions, equipping them with the knowledge and tools they need to develop inclusive security policies and approaches, in support of MDG 3.

7. Inclusion International

Special, 1975

Introduction

Inclusion International (II) is a global federation of family-based organizations advocating for the human rights of people with intellectual disabilities worldwide. The organization represents over 200 member federations in 115 countries worldwide.

Aims and purposes of the organization

With its member societies, II acts as an agent for change on the basis of four main principles affecting the lives of people with an intellectual disability and their families: inclusion in all aspects of everyday society; full citizenship that respects individual human rights responsibilities; self-determination in order to have control over the decisions affecting their life; and family support.

Significant changes in the organization

Inclusion International is undergoing a process of reviewing its membership structure and criteria to ensure a renewed and strengthened global network.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

II focuses on the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD). It organizes global campaigns, regional forums, and international conferences and provides Convention Action Teams (CATs) and technical support. Further, Inclusion International provides regular submissions to the CRPD Committee and other treaty-body committees. In 2013, the organization secured a project with the United Nations Democracy Fund, through which it promotes inclusive civic engagement and political participation of people with intellectual disability in Kenya, Lebanon, and Zanzibar.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

II participated in the annual sessions of the Conference of States Parties to the CRPD and all meetings of the CRPD Committee. II hosted side events during these events. In 2014, II also participated in the following consultations and conferences, among others:

- United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)/ United Nations International Children's Fund (UNICEF) Education for All education flagship follow-up, September 2011;
- The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific's (UNESCAP) "Disability-Inclusive MDGs and Aid Effectiveness", March 2012, and High-level Intergovernmental Meeting, November 2012; and
- United Nations High-level Meeting on Disability and Development, September 2013.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

II has strong working relationships with UNICEF. It participates in the Global Partnership on Children with Disabilities and Development and collaborated on UNICEF's 2012 Partners Forum on Children with Disabilities and Development. It also meets regularly with the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs' (DESA) Family Support Unit.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

Inclusion International supports the MDGs through its efforts related to inclusive education and to realizing the rights secured in the CRPD. II hosts at least one regional event annually, which is an opportunity to share information with participants about the CRPD and the MDGs and to gather information from participants that is in-turn shared at the global level to support the monitoring and evaluation of the impact of those efforts on the ground. Additionally, an internationally renowned leadership institute in New Brunswick, Canada, informs participants on the theory of inclusive education, provides an opportunity to see inclusive schools in action, and engages participants in a critical analysis discussion on inclusive education.

8. Independent Advocacy Project

Special, 2011

Introduction

Independent Advocacy Project (IAP) is a non-partisan NGO registered under Nigeria's laws. IAP promotes respect for good governance in Nigeria through advocacy, coalition building, research, publications, and information sharing.

Aims and purposes of the organization

IAP brings individuals, groups, and organizations together within and outside Nigeria to build partnerships and share information on ways to promote participation, accountability, and effectiveness at all levels.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

IAP belongs to a number of coalitions, including Global Civil Society Friends of the United Nations Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC). IAP participates actively in the work of the coalition: it shares perspectives with its members and works to improve Nigeria's implementation of the convention.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

IAP has participated in several UNCAC Conferences of State Parties as an observer.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

IAP collaborates actively with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC). The organization has attended a number of training programmes facilitated by UNODC, including one held in Dakar, Senegal, during the reporting period.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

IAP's work does not directly focus on the MDGs, but indirectly supports their realisation through campaigns that focus on transparency and accountability as a means to promote the enjoyment of social and economic rights. Independent Advocacy Project has recently focused on the issue of political corruption in Nigeria, through workshops, focus group discussions, desk research, and interviews. In that regard, IAP conducted a comprehensive desk research and sensitization of citizens ahead of the 2015 elections.

9. Indira Gandhi Integral Education Centre

Special, 2011

Introduction

Founded in 1988, Indira Gandhi Integral Education Centre (IGIEC) is a research, development, and training organization based in Odisha, India. The organization advocates for positive social change through national and international fora and provides training and learning opportunities to global activists and leaders through its Institute.

Aims and purposes of the organization

IGIEC works to advance the rights of men, women, and girls, as well as the sexual and reproductive freedoms of all people; advance the welfare state; promote good governance; and engage in social service by working for the betterment of the under privileged sections of society.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The organization has undertaken activities to advance the development agenda of the Economic and Social Council and the United Nations at large by adopting MDG related projects during the reporting period. It conducted research, development, training, legal and family counselling, and empowerment activities for women, youth, rural populations, and tribes.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

No participation was specified.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

No cooperation was specified.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

The organization has several projects that support the MDGs.

10. Indo-European Chamber of Commerce and Industry

Special, 2011

Introduction

The Indo-European Chamber of Commerce and Industry (IECCI) is a not for profit organization registered in India. IECCI has local offices in India and international desks in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Spain, Luxembourg, Portugal, Romania, Ukraine, Poland, the Netherlands, and Mauritius.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The two primary objectives of IECCI are the socioeconomic development of less developed regions in India and the promotion of trade and commerce between India and other countries. Its work includes advocacy, lobbying, sensitisation, market research and studies, training and capacity-building, corporate social responsibility, documentation, events, and projects at the grass-roots level.

Significant changes in the organization

The organization altered the "Main Objects" Clause of the Memorandum of Association in 2012, so as to make it more inclusive.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

IECCI is promoting the MDGs in less developed regions, especially MDGs 1 and 3.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

No participation was specified.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

IECCI participated in a civil society training on the United Nations Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC) and its review mechanism, organized by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crimes (UNODC) and the UNCAC Civil Society Coalition in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 24-27 February 2014.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

IECCI contributed to MDG 1 in the State of Madhya Pradesh, India, by providing skill development, livelihood linkages, and leadership development support to 6,923 men and women during the reporting period. The organization also worked toward MDG 3 in Madhya Pradesh and across India through mass campaigns on women empowerment and gender equality through sensitisation, counselling and motivating, leadership development, and livelihood linkages to 5,479 women during the reporting period.

11. Initiatives: Women in Development

Special, 1999

Introduction

Initiatives: Women in Development (IWID) is a gender resource training, research, and advocacy organization. It operates in India and extends training support to South Asia and other countries.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The organization works toward an environmentally sustainable society; the development of poor and marginalized women; participatory training support to organizations on gender issues; conducting research on gender and development issues; promoting national and regional networks; and influencing policies from a gender perspective.

Significant changes in the organization

The organization has established Liaison offices in several states in collaboration with development organizations and academic institutions.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

During the reporting period, IWID carried out the activities to enhance women's participation in governance and policy making. The organization trained over 1,000 women in India on legislative procedures. it conducted a state level Women Legislative Assembly in August 2014. IWID worked systematically with other experts and activists to develop state and national level policies and bills that integrate women's voices and concerns, within the framework of the Beijing Platform for Action, CEDAW and the MDGs.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The organization participated in the 55th, 56th, and 58th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) and took part in several panels and dialogues, during which it shared on the topic of land and livelihood rights of women and governance. The organization conducted a parallel event during CSW 55 to create awareness on the strategic importance of conducting a Women's Parliament — An Alternative Platform for Democracy, 28 February 2011.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

During the visit of the United Nations Special Rapporteur on Violence Against Women, IWID organized a regional consultation of civil society organizations in Chennai, South India, April 2013. Documentation of the atrocities of different marginalized groups in South India brought visibility to the intensity and magnitude of violations. Further, IWID contributed to the Alternative Country Report for the Committee of the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW).

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

IWID systematically addresses the issue of land for women for food security, rural livelihood, and sustainable agriculture. During the reporting period, IWID developed a Model for Development called "SHARE Model of Farming" in several states of rural India. The model advocates sharing the labour and produce among a group of women by adopting safe and sustainable agricultural practices. IWID trained several grassroots organizations on this model. Further, IWID carried out action based participatory research by involving other organizations and developing new models of development. It developed and distributed several guide books and training modules on sustainable farming practices, development models, laws related to violence on women, and legislative procedures in different regional languages.

12. Institute for Global Environmental Strategies

Special, 2003

Introduction

The Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES) is an international research institute conducting practical and innovative research for realising sustainable development in the Asia-Pacific region.

Aims and purposes of the organization

Linking with key stakeholders, IGES conducts policy research that reflects evolving global trends. Through strategic policy recommendations, IGES facilitates policy formulation for a low-carbon sustainable Asia-Pacific.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

IGES contributed to the regional chapters of two major publications by United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), namely, Global Environmental Outlook (GEO5) and Global Outlook on Sustainable Consumption and Production. The organization prepared UNEP green economy assessment reports under the Partnership for Actions on Green Economy (PAGE). IGES holds an International Forum for Sustainable Asia and the Pacific annually, supported by the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP) and UNEP to raise awareness about regional environmental sustainability issues and share solutions.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

IGES participated in the following meetings of the United Nations:

- it participated in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Conference of the Parties (COP) meetings annually and organized side events on major climate policy issues, promoting research outcomes;
- it organized events and delivered research results at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20), Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 20-22 June 2012;
- it jointly organized a workshop at the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) World Conference on Education for Sustainable Development, Japan, 2014; and
- it liaised with the United Nations University (UNU) and the Convention on Biological Diversity's (CBD) Secretariat, providing resources and information on policy formulation at the 11th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the CBD, India, 2012.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

UNEP and IGES agreed to establish IGES Centre Collaborating with UNEP on Environmental Technologies, to be launched in 2015. IGES signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with UNFCCC's Secretariat to jointly develop databases, conduct research, convene regional events, and publish publications. The organization signed a MoU with UNEP Division of Technology, Industry and Economics (UNEP-DTIE) in 2013 to collaborate on resource efficiency. Finally, it signed a MoU with CBD's Secretariat to collaborate on biodiversity research.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

IGES supports the overall development agenda related to MDG 7 in Asia. IGES has contributed to global discussions on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by reviewing forms and governance of MDGs and providing policy recommendations on environmental sustainability for Rio+20 in 2012. IGES contributed to the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development through research and capacity-building.

13. Institute for Sustainable Development and Research

Special, 2007

Introduction

The Institute for Sustainable Development and Research (ISDR) is a NGO working for sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific, Europe, North America, Africa, and Latin America regions.

Aims and purposes of the organization

ISDR works towards sustainable development through education, training, and research on the following topics, among others: natural resources, coastal and river management and its conservation, rural and urban planning, infrastructure development, energy and greenhouse gases (GHG) issues, sanitation, industrial development, disaster mitigation and management, and climate change. ISDR also facilitates local initiatives by mobilising collective and participatory action towards self-reliance and sustainability.

Significant changes in the organization

During the reporting period, the organization included the Europe, Latin America and Africa regions to its programmes. ISDR also added human rights to its scope of the work. Administrative changes took place through routine general electoral processes. Finally, ISDR retained the recognition from the Government of India under the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 1976.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

ISDR contributed to the Global Commodities Forum organized by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), Geneva, Switzerland, 31 January-1 February 2011. The ISDR also contributed to the Civil Society Forum for UNCTAD's Thirteenth Session (UNCTAD XIII) in Doha, Qatar, 17-26 April 2012, by jointly organizing a special session on "Promoting investment, trade, entrepreneurship and related development policies to foster sustained economic growth for sustainable and inclusive development: Role of Asian and European Institutions". ISDR also participated in capacity building programmes organized by United Nations bodies and other research institutions and then imparted the acquired knowledge and skills to the local community, other NGOs and Voluntary Organizations.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

During UNCTAD XIII, ISDR organized a session on development-centred globalization and interrelated issues for strengthening all forms of cooperation and partnerships for trade and development jointly with the National Institute of Technology (NIT) based in Calicut, India. The ISDR also participated in the World Investment Forum 2012, organized in partnership with Government of Qatar in conjunction with UNCTAD XIII Ministerial Conference. The ISDR also participated in the Global Commodities Forum and Multi-Year Expert Meeting on Commodities and Development, 18-21 March 2013, Geneva, Switzerland.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

During the reporting period, ISDR contributed to the United Nations Decade for Action "Water for Life" 2005-2015/UN-Water Decade Programme by organizing training programmes, conferences, seminars and advocacy programmes.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

The ISDR organized a national workshop on "Research Methodology in Science, Engineering and Management" in partnership with the NIT, 26-28 September 2013, Calicut, India, that focused on the implementation of the MDGs. It also signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with NIT for the implementation of the MDGs. Additionally, ISDR started the initiative of electronic governance in India.

14. InterAction: American Council for Voluntary International Action

General, 1995

Introduction

InterAction, American Council for Voluntary International Action (InterAction) is the largest alliance of international NGOs and partners in the United States of America. It currently counts 189 members, including 6 associate members.

Aims and purposes of the organization

InterAction's 189 members work worldwide to eliminate extreme poverty and vulnerability; strengthen human rights and citizen participation; safeguard a sustainable planet; promote peace; and ensure dignity for all people. Acting as a convener, leader, and voice of the community, InterAction enables members and partners to mobilise; enhance their impact; align common interests; build community; and promote learning and innovation.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

As a member of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC), InterAction has been an active participant in advancing the "transformative agenda" to improve the United Nations', NGOs', and the Red Cross/Red Crescent Movement's response

to humanitarian emergencies. Working closely with the Under Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), United Nations International Children's Fund (UNICEF), and World Food Programme (WFP), InterAction helped develop protocols in the three major thematic areas of the transformative agenda.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

InterAction attended many meetings of the United Nations, including the following:

- 66th-69th Session of the United Nations General Assembly, New York, 2011-2014;
- High-level Open Government Partnership Event, New York, 24 September 2014;
- "Ensuring that Environmental Sustainability is Central to Post-2015 Outcomes", 17 September 2013;
- "MDG Countdown 2012: Working Together Towards 2015", 26 September 2012;
- "Sustainable Energy for All Initiative" lunch with United Nations Secretary General Ban Ki-moon, 20 April 2012; and
- Biannual IASC Principals meeting, 2011-2014.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

InterAction collaborated regularly with UNHCR, participating in the annual NGO Consultations and side meetings in Geneva, Switzerland, as well as preparing statements for the Executive and Standing Committee meetings. InterAction and its members met regularly with UNICEF to discuss the development of strategic partnerships, the broadening of UNICEF/NGO collaboration in the field and the importance of staff safety and security. InterAction also engaged with WFP to improve their partnerships with NGOs.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

InterAction is recognized as a key representative in the efforts to advance the MDGs in the United States. InterAction presented at the Global Development Goals for the 2015-2030 consultation in Washington D.C., United States, regarding the MDGs, 29 October 2013. On 12 February 2013, InterAction launched the InterAction Post-2015 Task Force.

15. ISHA Foundation

Special, 2007

Introduction

Isha Foundation is a non-profit organization headquartered at Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu, India. For the last three decades, Isha has been propagating the science of yoga throughout the world with the objective of bringing about a holistic

development that allows individuals to realize their true potential. In addition, the Foundation has initiated a number of large-scale social, health, environmental and educational projects in Tamil Nadu, Puducherry, and Andhra Pradesh to uplift the rural community and restore the environment.

Aims and purposes of the organization

Isha envisions a rural population full of joy and vitality, enthusiastically involved in rejuvenating their communities. Isha's mission is to work with disadvantaged communities to improve holistic health, empower children with high quality, affordable education, and promote life in harmony with the environment.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

Project GreenHands (PGH) aims at raising individual consciousness to make people realize their inevitable dependency on nature and to inspire them to plant trees. Through 130 nurseries across 28 districts of Tamil Nadu and Pondicherry, PGH has enabled the planting of 10.2 million saplings involving nearly 1 million people between 2011 and 2014. Nine Isha Vidhya schools enrol over 6,415 children. In addition, Isha is carrying out critical interventions in 56 rural government schools, benefiting over 34,000 students. Through its Action for Rural Rejuvenation and AYUSH projects Isha caters to the health needs of rural areas through its mobile health clinics and rural clinics that bring basic health care to remote rural areas.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

A written statement entitled "Isha Vidhya — Educating Rural India" was submitted to the Economic and Social Council's 2011 High-level Segment, addressing the Annual Ministerial Segment's theme "Implementing the Internationally Agreed Goals and Education"; 4-7 July 2011, Geneva, Switzerland.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

Since 2010, Isha has been collaborating with UNICEF and the Indian Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sport to promote a central government programme (PYKKA) showcasing rural sport. Isha shared its successes in mobilizing communities to improve health and environmental awareness through sport. In 2011, Isha Vidhya partnered with the Food and Agricultural Organization's (FAO) Education for Rural People flagship programme.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

Through Isha Vidhya, the Foundation contributes to MDGs 1, 2 and 3 by providing quality education to underprivileged rural children in both Isha Vidhya rural schools and adopted government schools, providing nutritious midday meals to poor children, education to girls and employment to women in the schools. The afforestation activities contribute to MDG 7.